

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A user interface for visually configuring a video call, the user interface comprising:
a video call configuration window having plural
5 icons, each icon representing a video device; and
a directed graph relating the icons to represent the configuration of the video devices in the video call;
wherein the directed graph relates compatible video devices and prohibits invalid video call configurations.

10 2. The user interface of Claim 1 further comprising a video device dialog box operable to add one or more video device types to the video call configuration window.

15 3. The user interface of Claim 2 wherein selection of a video device type from the video device dialog box is operable to depict a library of available video devices of the selected video device type.

20 4. The user interface of Claim 2 wherein addition of a video device type to a video call implicates one or more additional video devices to establish a valid video call configuration, the user interface further comprising
25 a dialog box that identifies video devices needed for a valid video call configuration.

30 5. The user interface of Claim 1 wherein the directed graph depicts one or more parameters for one or more of the video devices of the video call configuration.

6. The user interface of Claim 5 wherein a parameter comprises the line speed of the video device associated with the directed graph.

5 7. The user interface of Claim 5 wherein a parameter comprises the protocol of the video device associated with the directed graph.

10 8. The user interface of Claim 5 wherein a parameter comprises the identification of the video device that initiates communication with one or more other video devices.

15 9. The user interface of Claim 1 wherein the directed graph is operable to monitor a video call having the video call configuration by depicting changes in the state of the video call.

20 10. The user interface of Claim 9 wherein changes in the state of the video call comprise failure of a video device.

25 11. The user interface of Claim 10 wherein failure of a video device is depicted with a red color.

30 12. The user interface of Claim 1 further comprising a device list window associated with the video call configuration window, the device list window listing attributes of the video devices represented by the plural icons.

13. A method for visually configuring a video call with a computer user interface, the method comprising:
selecting a first video device for display as a first graphic by the user interface;
5 selecting a second video device for display as a second graphic by the user interface;
selecting the first graphic to initiate a directed graph arrow originating from the first graphic; and
selecting the second graphic to draw the directed
10 graph arrow from the first graphic to the second graphic representing a video call between the first and second video devices.

14. The method of Claim 13 further comprising:
15 determining if a video call between the first and second video devices is a valid action; and
prohibiting the drawing of a directed graph arrow between the first and second graphics unless the video call between the first and second video devices is a
20 valid action.

15. The method of Claim 14 wherein a video call between the first and second video devices requires configuration through a third video device, the method
25 further comprising:

determining that a video call configuration for a video call between the first and second video devices requires a third video device; and
presenting a graphic associated with the third video
30 device to allow a valid video configuration using the third video device.

16. The method of Claim 13 further comprising:
scheduling a video call according to the video call
configuration.

5 17. The method of Claim 13 further comprising:
initiating a video call according to the video call
configuration.

10 18. The method of Claim 17 further comprising:
monitoring the video devices of the initiated video
call; and
depicting the state of the monitored video devices
through the user interface.

19. A video network comprising:
plural video devices;
a video network platform in communication with the
plural video devices;

- 5 a user interface control associated with the video
network platform and operable to depict the video devices
as graphical icons having a video call configuration
represented by a directed graph.

- 10 20. The video network of Claim 19 wherein the user
interface control is further operable to determine the
validity of a video call configuration.

21. The video network of Claim 19 wherein the user
15 interface is further operable to direct the video network
platform to initiate a video call according to the video
call configuration.